

From: Nancy Blair [<mailto:nmblair@verizon.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 5:48 PM

Subject: Oppose Industrial Wind Projects

Dear Representative,

I write to strongly **oppose** the proposed Wild Meadows Wind Project in Alexandria, Danbury, and Grafton, NH and the Spruce Ridge Wind Project in Alexandria, Hebron and Groton.

I have researched and attended presentations on the topic of wind power in New England and it is clearly not the renewable energy of choice for our area. If it were not for tax subsidies, Iberdola and EDP Renewables would not even be in these areas attempting to get approval for inappropriate wind projects. It is obvious that these companies target rural communities for their projects and offer what may seem to be a sizable amount of money to these towns in hopes that there will be little opposition. I recently read an article in The Madison County Courier which impressed me as the same situation which the residents in the Newfound Lake area are facing. One paragraph in particular seemed to sum it up for me:

“Tell your Town Council members that they must choose between having an industrial energy facility as its focal point, or having a place where people live in order to raise families, start businesses, participate in the local economy, and pay taxes. Because you can’t have both. If you allow the wind farm to be built, you will lose residents, you will lose your properties, school populations will dwindle, and your tax base will erode. And once you issue a permit, there’s no turning back. You can’t undo it.” The full article can be found at <http://madisoncountycourier.com/?p=31189>.

Tourism is a major asset to the Newfound Lake area as well as the state of New Hampshire. Continued approval of these wind projects will have a huge impact on tourism in our area thus causing significant economic loss to its residents, businesses and ultimately the towns. I don’t believe that boaters, hikers, skiers, “leaf peepers” etc. will continue to travel to New Hampshire to take in views of vast devastation along with 400 to 500 foot turbines with flashing red lights. For the many people whom have appreciated New Hampshire for its natural beauty, this state will no longer appeal to them.

My concerns about these projects in our area are too numerous to discuss in this letter. Although one additional major concern I have, is that it is very likely that the water quality of Newfound Lake will be compromised as a direct result of these projects. It is unreasonable to believe that you can blast ridgelines surrounding a lake and the lake will not be impacted. Area residents have gone to great lengths to assure that Newfound Lake will remain one of the cleanest lakes in the country and we would like to keep it that way.

In closing, I request that in the short term the legislature of NH impose a moratorium on permitting future wind projects and consider more practical means of alternative energy (ie. solar). If not, the state of New Hampshire will be left with numerous ridgeline monuments to the legislature’s short sightedness and lack of respect for their countryside and the people that live in it.

Sincerely,

Nancy Blair
Bridgewater, NH